

# GeoForms

A GeoForm is a tool for ArcGIS Online that allows you to crowdsource data through an online survey form accessible to anyone with the website address. Through GeoForms, you can expand your data collection audience beyond just those who can log in to ArcGIS Online.

There are 3 steps to building a GeoForm:

- 1) Create a New Layer; 2) Create a Web Map; 3) Customize the GeoForm Web App

## Step 1: Create a New Layer

1. Log on to [developers.arcgis.com](https://developers.arcgis.com)
2. Click the Layers menu at the top right; Create a New Layer
3. Choose a Layer Title, Tags, and Description.
4. Add Field Names and Data Types (String, Integer, Float, or Date). These fields will capture the responses on your GeoForm so consider what questions you will be asking, what types of answers will be provided, and therefore how you should design your fields. All the fields do not have to be used by the GeoForm so you can add fields for data that may be added later through other apps or activities. You can also choose whether or not the fields are required. Required fields attached to questions in your GeoForm will make those questions required for respondents; they will not be able to leave them blank to submit their data.
5. Click 'Create Layer'

## Step 2: Create a Web Map

1. From the details page of your new layer, click 'Open in ArcGIS Online', then 'Open in Map Viewer'.
2. Change the Style (Show a particular attribute or just show location)
3. Change the Basemap to your liking
4. Adjust the map view area to the location and scale of your choice.
5. 'Save' your map.
6. 'Share' your map. Choose to share it with 'Everyone (Public)' as well as your ArcGIS Organization  
*Note: You are creating a crowdsourcing app so you want it to be accessible to the public. By default your feature services and web maps are private. When you update the sharing settings of a web map, you will be asked whether you would like to update the sharing settings of the feature services or layers in that web map. Generally you want to do this so the layers align with the map settings, otherwise someone may come to your map but not be able to see the data.*

## Step 3: Build a GeoForm

1. After updating your sharing settings on your web map, choose 'Create a Web App' (or view the details of your map and choose 'Create a Web App' on the right when viewing the Overview tab.
2. There are many different types of web apps. To find the GeoForm Builder, select 'Collect/Edit' in the menu on the left, then click 'GeoForm' in the results on the right. Next choose 'Create Web App'.
3. Follow the steps in the GeoForm Builder, making sure to select the layer and web map you created above as the basis for the GeoForm. *Note: Your field 'Labels' will appear on your GeoForm. Configure your fields (click the gear icon) and add more detailed instructions, if needed, for each field by putting in the 'Help Text'.*
4. Preview, Save, and Publish. You can preview your GeoForm at any time. You can also return to the GeoForm Builder and make changes even after saving and publishing. Once published, simply share the URL to anyone you want to collect data from!

GeoForm Information from ArcGIS: <https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=931653256fd24301a84fc77955914a82>